

## IN THE SPECIFICATION

*Please amend the paragraph on page 32 beginning at line 11 as follows:*

--[0071] Regarding all the optical fibers of Samples [[B-F]] B - I, the transmission loss at the wavelength of 1310 nm is 0.32 dB/km or less; the transmission loss at the wavelength of 1380 nm is 0.31 dB/km or less, the loss increase due to OH-radical at the wavelength of 1380 nm is 0.10 dB/km or less, and the transmission loss at the wavelength of 1550 nm is 0.176 dB/km or less. Each of the optical fibers has the pure silica core and the F-doped cladding.--

*Please amend the paragraph on page 32 and bridging page 33 beginning at line 17 as follows:*

--[0072] On the other hand, the optical fiber of Comparative Example B has the cable cutoff wavelength of 1158 nm, the mode field diameter of 9.13  $\mu\text{m}$  at the wavelength of 1310 nm, the zero dispersion wavelength of 1316 nm, the chromatic dispersion of 16.50 ps/nm/km at the wavelength of 1550 nm, the dispersion slope of 0.0584 ps/nm<sup>2</sup>/km at the wavelength of 1550 nm, and the zero dispersion slope of 0.0850 ps/nm<sup>2</sup>/km. In addition, the transmission loss at the wavelength of 1310 nm is 0.33 dB/km ~~or less~~, the transmission loss at the wavelength of 1380 nm is 0.62 dB/km, the loss increase due to OH-radical at the wavelength of 1380 nm is 0.31 dB/km ~~or less~~, and the transmission loss at the wavelength of 1550 nm is 0.19 dB/km ~~or less~~. This optical fiber of Comparative Example B has the Ge-doped core and the pure silica cladding.--

*Please amend the paragraph on page 33 and bridging page 34 beginning at line 11 as follows:*

--[0073] Fig 9 is a graph showing locations of (MFD,  $\lambda_{cc}$ ) of the optical fibers of respective Samples B-F and Comparative Example B, on a two-dimensional space in which the horizontal axis represents the mode field diameter MFD at the wavelength of 1310 nm and the vertical axis the cable cutoff wavelength  $\lambda_{cc}$ , and also showing equal chromatic dispersion curves at the wavelength of 1550 nm. In this Fig. 9, marks  $\blacktriangle$ B- $\blacktriangle$ F indicate (MFD,  $\lambda_{cc}$ ) of the optical

fibers of Samples B-F, and mark  $\Delta B$  (MFD,  $\lambda_{cc}$ ) of the optical fiber of Comparative Example B. Graph G910 indicates an equal chromatic dispersion curve of a standard single-mode optical fiber with the chromatic dispersion of 17 ps/nm/km or less, graph G920 an equal chromatic dispersion curve of a standard single-mode optical fiber with the chromatic dispersion of 16 ps/nm/km or less, and graph G930 an equal chromatic dispersion curve of a standard single-mode optical fiber with the chromatic dispersion of 15 ps/nm/km or less. On the other hand, graph G940 indicates an equal chromatic dispersion curve of a fiber having the pure silica core with the chromatic dispersion of 16 ps/nm/km or less, and graph G950 an equal chromatic dispersion curve of an optical fiber having the pure silica core with the chromatic dispersion of 15 ps/nm/km or less.--